

Chapter 14 notes:

I am typing my PowerPoint presentation for chapter 14 as we didn't go over much of this in class.

Clearly, my explanations are not included. Use it as a guide to make sure you are aware and understanding the significance of the information I have listed.

Chapter 14 The Gathering Tempest, 1853-1860

Kansas and the Rise of the Republican Party

- Settlers and railroads want to expand West of Missouri
- David R. Atchison
- Stephen A. Douglas
 - "Little Giant"
- Kansas-Nebraska Bill
 - 2 territories: Kansas, Nebraska
 - Missouri Compromise repealed

Kansas-Nebraska Act

- Douglas and support of Manifest Destiny
- Abraham Lincoln: expansion of slavery must stop
- Bill narrowly passes

Death of the Whig Party

- Kansas-Nebraska Act destroys Whig Party
- Winfield Scott
- Republican Party
 - Free-Soilers
 - Anti-slavery Democrats
- Nativism and the Know-Nothings (American Party)

Immigration and Nativism

- 1840s: surge in German and Irish Immigrants
 - Many immigrants were Roman Catholics
 - Ethnic riots between Protestants and Catholics
- Nativism: established Americans perceived the recent immigrants as responsible for the rise in crime and poverty in the cities

Immigrants in Politics

- Increase in political power of immigrants
 - Rise in foreign-born voters
 - Many become Democrats
 - Leaned toward pro-slavery as they compete with Northern blacks for labor
- Catholic church anti-Abolitionist
- Temperance and Public school debate
 - Prohibition laws aggravated ethnic conflicts
 - Public vs. parochial school systems

The Rise of the Know-Nothings

- "American Party": merger of
 - Order of the Star Spangled banner

- Order of the United Americans
- Issues
 - Temperance
 - Opposed tax support for church schools
 - Lengthen naturalization laws from 5 to 21 years
- Know-Nothings devastate Northern Whigs

The Decline of Nativism

- Turmoil in Kansas
- Center for nativism shifted to the South
 - Southern Know-nothings were pro-slavery
 - Northern Know-Nothings were anti-slavery
- By 1856, Northern Know-Nothings had become Republican
- Nativism faded, along with ethnic tensions and cultural issues

Bleeding Kansas

- Kansas-Nebraska Act
- “Border Ruffians”
- Free Soil settlers
- 1855 Territorial elections go proslavery, but with significant fraud
- Free-state constitution also organized
- Charles Sumner
 - “The Crime against Kansas”
 - Andrew Butler
- Preston Brooks

The Caning of Senator Sumner

- Brooks canes Sumner
 - Southern response: Brooks reelects, sent more canes
 - Northern response: proves contentions about barbarism of slave owning south
- “Bleeding Kansas”
 - 1856: sack of Lawrence, Kansas by pro-slavery Missourians
 - John Brown and Pottawatomie Creek massacre
 - Mini civil war in Kansas

The Election of 1856 part I

- Republicans dominant party in North
 - 1st truly sectional party
 - Anti-slavery
 - Pro-internal improvements, including transcontinental railroad
 - John C. Fremont: “Free Soil, Free Speech, Free Men, Fremont”
- Democrats and James Buchanan
 - Popular sovereignty
 - Blame Republicans for Bleeding Kansas
- American Party and Millard Fillmore

Election of 1856 Part II

- Election in the North
 - Democrats vs. Republicans
- Election in the South

- Democrats vs. American Party
- Higher voter turnout in the North
- Democrats do well charging Republicans with support for racial equality
- Republicans claim opposition to expansion of slavery is to protect opportunity for whites

The Dred Scott Case

- Dred Scott
- Roger B. Taney
- Robert Grier
- The decision
 - Missouri Compromise is unconstitutional
 - Blacks are not U.S. citizens
- Republicans denounce the decision

The Lecompton Constitution

- Dred Scott case intensified the slavery controversy
- Lecompton constitution—Kansas rejected it
- Lecompton constitution—Buchanan asks Congress to accept it
- Stephen Douglas opposes it
- Long and bitter fight within Congress
 - Splits the democratic Party

The Economy in the 1850s

- Railroad industry
 - Improved transportation
 - Lays basis for industrialization
- Expansion in agricultural technology
 - McCormick reaper and John Deere steel-plows

“The American System of Manufactures”

- Mass production of interchangeable parts
- Crystal Palace Exhibition, London (1851)
- Samuel Colt
- American education system produced highest literacy rates in the world in free states
 - Teaching becomes extension of women’s childrearing role

The Southern Economy

- South lagged behind in education
- Southern crop price rise
- James D. B. DeBow
 - *DeBow’s Review*
- Some economic diversification occurs in 1850s

The Sovereignty of King Cotton

- James Hammond and “King Cotton”
- George Fitzhugh
 - *Sociology for the South* (1854)
 - *Cannibals All* (1857)

Labor Conditions in the North

- Average per capita income:
 - 40% higher in North vs. South

- On the edge of poverty
 - Many recent immigrants, day laborers, young, single women
- Wages and opportunities were still greater in the North than anywhere else in the world

The Panic of 1857

- Financial panic
 - U.S. grain exports to Europe decreased in post-Crimean war period
 - High speculation across many sectors of U.S. economy
- Working-class riots
- Short-lived depression

Sectionalism and the Panic

- Panic of 1857 intensified sectional hostility more than class conflict
- Many Northerners blamed the South for causing the depression
- Republicans demand protective tariffs
- Post-Panic
 - Republicans made gains in congressional elections and pushed for measures:
 - Homestead Act
 - Land grants to a transcontinental railroad
 - Construction of agricultural and mechanical colleges

Free-labor Ideology

- “free labor” ideology: the Republican antislavery arguments of the 1850s
- Slavery degraded what should be honorable work
- Abraham Lincoln: free labor system
 - Slavery as the antithesis of upward mobility
 - Slavery “fatally fixed” in their position for life
- Southerners countered that free labor was prone to unrest and strikes

The Impending Crisis

- Hinton Rowan Helper
 - *The Impending Crisis of the South* (1857)
 - Book was banned throughout the South
 - Aggravated sectional tensions
- Free speech not tolerated anymore in the South

Southern Non-Slaveholders

- Bonds that held southern society together
 - Kinship, economic interest, and race
 - Hope by slaveless to acquire slaves
- “herrenvolk” democracy
 - The equality of all who belonged to the “master race”

The Lincoln-Douglas Debates

- 1858 Illinois contest for the Senate
- Lincoln
 - “a house divided against itself cannot stand”
 - Slavery and freedom were at odds
 - Dred Scot could lead to slavery in free states
- Douglas
 - Lincoln will provoke secession

- Lincoln wanted equality for blacks

The Freeport Doctrine

- Lincoln lost the Senate seat, but won national fame
- Douglas's Freeport Doctrine alienates southern Democrats
- Jefferson Davis and federal slave codes for territories
- John Sherman

John Brown at Harpers Ferry

- Brown's plot
- Harpers Ferry, Virginia, 1859
 - Robert E. Lee
 - J.E. B. Stuart
- Effect in South: intensifies southern suspicions of Republicans and abolitionists
- Northern reaction: Sympathy for a martyr

